

Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project

Agency of Human Services, Department of Mental Health
26 Terrace Street, Montpelier, Vermont 05609

TO: Vermont Mental Health Performance Indicator Project
Advisory Group and Interested Parties

FROM: John Pandiani and Emma Harrigan

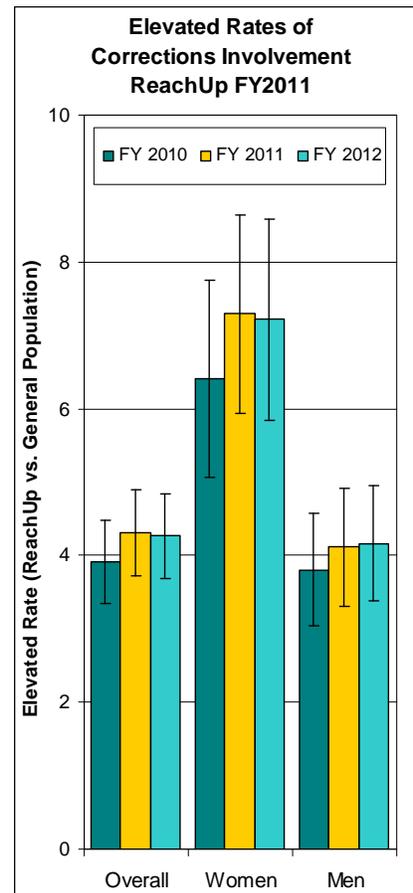
DATE: April 5, 2013

RE: Corrections Involvement of FY2011 DCF ReachUp/TANF
Service Recipients during FY2010-FY2012

This brief report provides information regarding the rates at which adults who received services from Vermont's Department for Children and Families (DCF) ReachUp/TANF program in FY2011 were also on the caseload of the Vermont Department of Corrections (DOC) during each year from FY2010-FY2012. This analysis was conducted in response to a request from David Yacovone, Commissioner of Vermont's Department of Children and Families. This report complements our recent report on Corrections Involvement of DMH Adult Outpatient Service Recipients.

The findings reported here are based on analysis of data for adult ReachUp/TANF service recipients provided by DCF in conjunction with basic demographic data for all individuals on the DOC caseload during the study period. ReachUp/TANF helps families with children by providing cash assistance for basic needs and support work and self-sufficiency. Because the two databases used in this analysis do not share unique person identifiers, Probabilistic Population Estimation (PPE)¹ was used to determine the numbers of individuals who were represented in both of these datasets during each year in the study period.

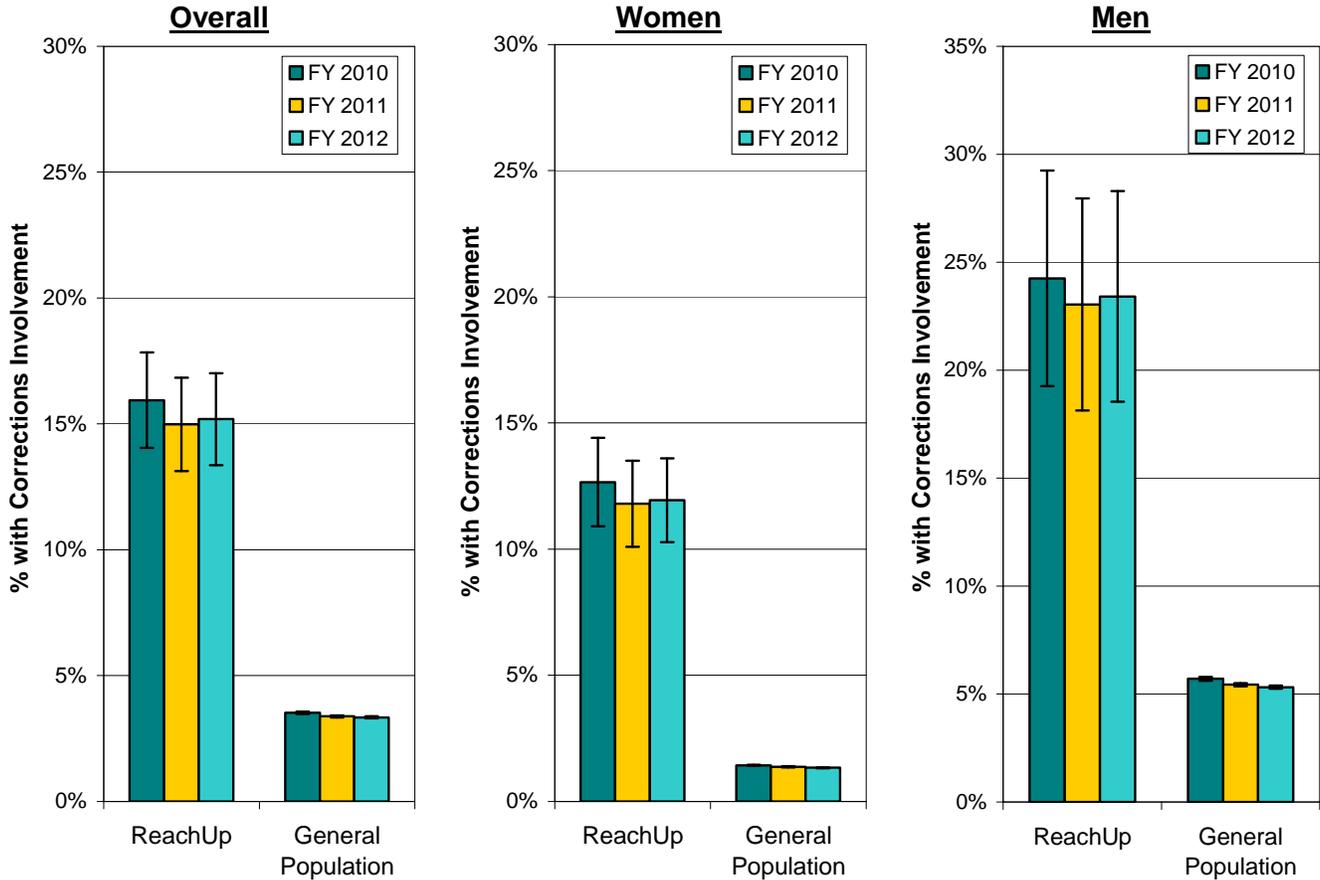
As you will see, between 15% and 16% of all DCF ReachUp/TANF service recipients were on the corrections caseload during the three years under examination. Compared to the general population of Vermont adults, ReachUp recipients, overall, were between 4 and 5 times more likely to be incarcerated or paroled. There were, however, substantial differences between male and female ReachUp/TANF recipients in their corrections involvement. Female ReachUp/TANF recipients were more than eight times as likely as women in the general population to be incarcerated or paroled, while male ReachUp/TANF recipients were only between four and five times as likely as men in the general population to be involved with corrections.



We look forward to your interpretation of these findings, your questions and comments, and your requests for further analyses. As always, we can be reached at 802-828-1703 or pip@state.vt.us.

¹ PPE is a statistical tool that provides valid and reliable measures of the unduplicated numbers of individuals represented in anonymous datasets and to determine the unduplicated number of individuals shared across datasets.

DCF ReachUp Recipients with Corrections Involvement FY2010-FY2012



Corrections Involvement

	ReachUp FY2011	FY2010		FY2011		FY2012	
		#	%	#	%	#	%
Overall							
ReachUp	9,506 ± 124	1,515 ± 179	16% ± 2%	1,424 ± 175	15% ± 2%	1,444 ± 172	15% ± 2%
General Population	500,413	17,637 ± 211	4% ± 0%	16,906 ± 197	3% ± 0%	16,725 ± 194	3% ± 0%
*Elevated Rate			4.5 ± 0.5		4.4 ± 0.6		4.5 ± 0.5
Women							
ReachUp	6,814 ± 118	863 ± 119	13% ± 2%	804 ± 115	12% ± 2%	814 ± 112	12% ± 2%
General Population	256,281	3,677 ± 49	1% ± 0%	3,519 ± 46	1% ± 0%	3,421 ± 45	1% ± 0%
*Elevated Rate			8.8 ± 1.2		8.6 ± 1.2		8.9 ± 1.2
Men							
ReachUp	2,691 ± 37	653 ± 134	24% ± 5%	620 ± 132	23% ± 5%	630 ± 131	23% ± 5%
General Population	244,132	13,936 ± 205	6% ± 0%	13,271 ± 191	5% ± 0%	12,996 ± 188	5% ± 0%
*Elevated Rate			4.2 ± 0.9		4.2 ± 0.9		4.4 ± 0.9

Analysis conducted by Vermont Department of Mental Health Research & Statistics Unit.

* Elevated Rate is the corrections rate for ReachUp adult recipients divided by the corrections rate for the general population. A relative risk of 4.4 indicates that the corrections rate for ReachUp recipients is four times the corrections rate for the general population. Based on FY2011 ReachUp Caseload data maintained by the Vermont Department for Children and Families (DCF) and FY2010-FY2012 Corrections data maintained by the Vermont Department of Corrections (DOC) for adults age 18 and older. Probabilistic Population Estimation was used to determine caseload size and overlap (with 95% confidence intervals). Estimates for general population are based on figures (July 1, 2011) obtained from the Vermont Department of Health.

Corrections Involvement includes incarcerations and parole caseloads.